



# BUSINESS TALK

*Connecting members, connecting businesses!*

## Note from the President



### Dear Members,

I am honoured to serve as the 10th President of this chamber. Together, with all other Executive Council Members and the Secretariat, we will continue to grow our chamber as well as make strides to foster a vibrant business climate between India and Australia, creating more value for our members.

Thanks to everyone who attended our 'Meet & Greet' networking event in Chennai on 25 January. Special thanks to Ms. Susan Grace, Australian Consul General in Chennai who was the Chief Guest and for the Consulate's support in the Chamber participating in the Tamil Nadu Global Investors Meet.

I'm delighted to announce that as part of our strategic plan for 2019-20, we will be starting Chapters in Mumbai and New Delhi, along with other key initiatives pan-India. I look forward to the opportunities that this brings and if you would like to get involved, please let me know. I'd also like to thank our renewing members and extend a warm welcome to the 30 new members who have joined us over the last 4 months.

In terms of events, I will be leading the Chamber's 20th trade delegation to Australia, a 'Study Tour and Business mission of Real Estate Developers to Sydney, Australia, from 12-17 May, 2019, where we have partnered with CREDAI. The dates for our multi-discipline and CEBIT Australia delegations, as well as India events, will be shared with you soon, when we launch the Chamber's new website. I must thank Mr. Jonah Stephen, our E.C member for being a strong support for the Chamber's online activity and our Deputy Director, Petula Thomas for working unstintingly on the Chamber's various new initiatives.

There has been some confusion around a Business Club that has been contacting our members, soliciting membership. I would like to reiterate that there is only one Indo-Australian Chamber of Commerce, which has been in existence for close to 30 years. We are in no way associated with this entity.

We had written to members last December, when our LinkedIn had been hacked into and renamed 'Indo-Australian Business Club'. When we reported this to LinkedIn, they investigated and immediately locked down the compromised account. Please reach out to us if there are still any questions around this.

I am very proud of the role this chamber plays in supporting businesses in India and Australia. We currently offer great membership pricing and have exciting strategic initiatives/events coming up. I encourage you to make the most of your membership.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and congratulations to all who have contributed to it. Let's keep the conversation going.

Sincerely,

*Prakash Challa*

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## Australia at the Tamil Nadu Global Investors Meet



The Australian Consulate-General in Chennai was proud to lead a strong Australian delegation at the Tamil Nadu Global Investors Meet from 22-25 January 2019. Over 60 representatives from Australian industry, bilateral business chambers, state officers and federal departments were in attendance, showing Tamil Nadu that Australia is a strong partner for its future growth trajectory.

Tamil Nadu is a priority state under the Australian Government's *India Economic Strategy*, an ambitious plan to transform Australia's economic relationship with India out to 2035. The strategy prioritises engagement with ten Indian states across ten sectors of the economy: education, agriculture, energy, resources, tourism, healthcare, financial services, infrastructure, science and innovation, and sport.

We also hosted an alumni networking dinner for Australian delegates to celebrate the success of prominent Australian alumni in Tamil Nadu. The dinner highlighted the role that Australian alumni can play in India to bridge the cultural gap between our nations and to strengthen business connectivity.

On the Australian side, over 1,200 students will come to India in 2019 to study under the *New*

*The Australian delegation at GIM 2019*

*Australian Consul General in Chennai, Ms Susan Grace, addresses the media at GIM 2019*



*Colombo Plan*. A signature initiative of the Australian Government to encourage greater Indo-Pacific literacy in undergraduate students, the Australian Consulate-General looks forward to their contribution to strengthen the bilateral relationship back home. ❖

**Andrew Collister**, *Second Secretary and Vice-Consul, Australian Consulate General, Chennai*

## Meet & Greet

The Chamber's first event for 2019, its 'Meet & Greet' dinner reception at the Taj Club-house Chennai was held on 25 January 2019 with over 120 people in attendance, representing a good mix of the business and diplomatic community. This business networking evening coincided with the Indian Republic and Australian National Day and was jointly conducted with the Indo-Australian Association (IAA).

Mr. Prakash Challa, President of the Chamber, welcomed the gathering and gave an overview of the Chamber's vision and strategic plan for 2019. Dr. Susan Marthandan, President of IAA, spoke about the work of their 34-year-old bilateral cultural association.

The Chief Guest, Ms. Susan Grace, Australian Consul-General in Chennai, highlighted Australia's interest in developing a stronger economic relationship with India and the key initiatives of the Australian Consulate General in Chennai, including recent success at the Tamil Nadu Global Investors Meet 2019. Mr. S.P Sharma, Director proposed the Vote of thanks. Ms. Petula Thomas, Deputy Director managed and emceed the event.

The longest-serving members of the Chamber and IAA were honoured and received their awards from the Chief Guest. Mementos were presented to the Event Partners - Citi Bank, Hindustan Institute of Technology & Science, Carisma, SSPDL



Mr. K. Balakrishna, MD, Servion Global Solutions Ltd., receiving IACC's longest-service member award



Students of Hindustan College of Arts & Science performing a fusion dance

Group, TVS Dynamic & Raheja QBE and to Tie-Up Events for PR.

It was a relaxing and enjoyable evening where business connections were further strengthened. ❖

**Hi Petula,**

Congratulations for a well organised event and a great evening. Thanks so much for presenting me (Servion) the long-term-member award.

Regards, **Bala, K Balakrishna,**  
Executive Director, Servion Global Solutions.



IACC's Secretariat team, President and an E.C. Member

### Correction to Oct-Dec 2018 issue

Topics presented on: At the 'Seminar on Launching Business in Australia', Mr. Martin Artenstein, Director, Morris Cohen Glen & Co., Victoria, Australia, presented on 'Australia – Open for Business' and Ms. Vilasini Seevanathan, Director, Vymigrate Global Migration and Education Consultants, spoke on the topic, 'Business Skills – Investor Permanent Visa Requirements'. In the last issue, the two topics were interchanged in error.

## Members Making News



**Prakash Challa** (2nd from right), Chairman & Managing Director, SSPDL Group received a 'Certificate of Merit, PMAY – Empowering India awards 2019' on 5 March at New Delhi. Sri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon. Minister of State, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Govt. of India was the Chief Guest. ❖



**Bish Mukherjee**, ABC, IABC Fellow, receiving the coveted Lifetime Achievement Award from Shri Sunil Arora, Chief Election Commissioner, at the 13th Global PR Conclave at Manipal University in Jaipur on 15th Feb 2019, in the distinguished presence of the Vice-Chancellors of Manipal and Bangalore Universities, and a galaxy of VIPs. ❖

[BW Most Influential Woman Of India:](#)  
[Zia Mody, Corporate Lawyer](#)

## New & Renewing Members



**AVI MOVIE MAKERS**  
Passion • Determination • Courage



**GANESAN | MANURAJ**  
ADVOCATES



**Astrotech Steels**  
Private Limited



**PEACE TRUST**  
Lifting up the least, the lost and the last...

**Paramatta**  
Imports And Exports [P] LTD

*Indian Summer House*

LUXURY ACCOMMODATION • FUNCTIONS • EVENTS

[www.indiansummerhouse.co](http://www.indiansummerhouse.co) A unique 5-star villa haven experience.



**TRADELEAVES**

A warm welcome to our 13 new members  
and to renewing members for the period 22 Dec '18 to February 2019.

## 25 Years of Engagement in India

Deakin University marked 25 historic years in India by announcing a special bursary of AUD\$2000 for all Indian residents who study a new online course in hospital administration. Speaking at an international conference in New Delhi held to recognise the university's 25-year journey in India, Vice-Chancellor Professor Jane den Hollander AO said Deakin's new Graduate Certificate in Hospital Administration would be launched on the innovative FutureLearn platform.

“Over 25 years, Deakin has committed more than AUD\$20 million to research and scholarship initiatives in India and has partnerships with dozens of India's premier universities, research organisations and businesses. More than 60,000 students now study at Deakin, including almost 15,000 international students from 130 countries, including 5277 students from India. We are also proud to be in the top one per cent of universities worldwide across the major international university ranking systems.”

Indian students presently constitute the largest cohort of international students at Deakin University campuses in Australia. Thereby, defining the university's success in India. There are many aspects that can define the huge success of a young university like Deakin. But the most crucial is its innovative and nimble approach towards in-country partner-



ships. The university boasts of 50 strategic partnerships among its 100 collaborations in India.

The 25 years' celebration was organised from the 11 – 15 March, 2019 with events in New Delhi and Chennai in association with the Australian Trade and Investment Commission. The silver jubilee events focussed on thematic areas that included Women in Leadership, Sport and Management, Integrated Reporting, Smart Agriculture and Healthcare.

“The story of Deakin in India has been one of collaboration, friendship and strategic partnerships that transcend geographical borders to create a vibrant culture of research excellence. As we look to the future, it is time to celebrate that journey,” Professor den Hollander said. ❖

**Malavika Varma**, *Manager – Communication and Digital Media, Deakin University*

Watch: IACC in conversation with Deakin University. [Click here](#)



Panel discussion on 'Strengthening research ecosystem'

Workshop on 'Women in Leadership'



## India Transnational Education – Opportunities for Australia

Austrade has recently launched a Report titled “India Transnational Education – Opportunities for Australia”.

The report is set against the background of international education institutions including Australian education institutions that are looking to expand their engagement in India by offering a broad range of education services.

The scope of activities being deployed by international education institutions in India includes academic collaborations, executive education programmes, corporate education partnerships, R&D programmes with Indian corporates,

institutional partnerships and participation in government supported research programs.

The report takes a deep dive into higher education opportunities in India; business models and operating structures for Australian educational institutions in India. Australian education institutions interested in expanding into India or an Indian education institution interested in engaging and partnering with Australian education institutions, could email [ind@austrade.gov.au](mailto:ind@austrade.gov.au) ❖



**PS Krishnan**, *Director Marketing, AUSTRADE*

## Global Victoria supports Bengaluru International Film Festival 2019

Global Victoria and Karnataka government embarked on a new engagement at the 11th edition of the Bengaluru International Film Festival held in February 2019.

Claire Dobbin AM, Chair of Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF) and Mark Woods, Industry Programs Director and Executive Producer of MIFF’s Premier Fund conducted a two-day script writing workshop for 30 aspiring film makers and writers from Karnataka.

Claire is an Australian script advisor and editor who works globally with development agencies, screenwriters and filmmakers. She is also the Deputy President and script advisor at the acclaimed international script workshop éQuinoxe Europe and regularly runs screenwriting workshops/ lectures in Australia, Iran, New Zealand Europe, India, China, Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

Mark also presented on a panel discussion on ‘Co-production Possibilities and Multilingual Productions’ as a part of the festival sharing his experience on co-financing and co-development across regions.

MIFF is one of the oldest film festivals in the world and is the largest film festival in the southern hemisphere. The festival is scheduled in August every year presenting an acclaimed screening program including films from local and international filmmakers, alongside industry events. ❖

<http://miff.com.au/>

**Vidyanand Sagaram**, *Director - Strategic Projects, Global Victoria, Victorian Government Trade and Investment Office*

## Do you know RADA (Raise & Develop Association)?



Carisma's 'Women at Workplace' program, RADA, is more a movement than a mere formality. This movement, now part of the company's DNA was initiated and curated by Jonah Stephen. Constituting about 35% of the workforce, Carisma's vibrant team of professional women weave out well-planned activities, round the year, that energises, engages not only the women at work, but everyone in the organisation. Flagship initiatives include health & wellness

training, leading women leaders talk, women safety and social awareness programs. And yes, a liberal dose of fun & entertainment too, at work, keeps them empowered all the time! ❖

**Ayswarya Ramesh**, *HR Business Partner & Manager, Carisma Solutions P Ltd.*

<http://www.carisma-solutions.com.au/career.html>

## Indo-Australian Business Directory – 2019

The Chamber will be publishing a revised and updated 2019 edition of its Directory by April 2019 after a gap of three years. The Directory will contain the profiles and contact details of all our members along with a wide range of useful information and contacts in India and Australia.

The Directory has over the years become an important reference publication for those in the Indo-Australian space and plays a pivotal role in business matching. It reaches out to over 3000

companies in both countries. On account of the target circulation among the business community, many organisations use this Directory as a platform to reach out to a large number of companies in India and Australia.

Members also have an opportunity to release their advertisements in the Directory. For more details on the tariff and size of the advertisements please write to [trade@indoaustchamber.com](mailto:trade@indoaustchamber.com) or [admin@indoaustchamber.com](mailto:admin@indoaustchamber.com). ❖



<http://indoaustchamber.com/Registration/>

**12-17 MAY 2019**

**INDIA NEWS**

[iPhone assembler Hon Hai invests \\$213.5 million in Indian unit](#)

[Expect \\$28-bn FDI in food processing this year: Union Food Processing Minister](#)

[Bosch to invest Rs 20 crore in AI centre in India](#)

[Automakers invest around US\\$ 491 million in Indian start-ups in 2018](#)

[Australia looks to invest A\\$100 billion in India](#)

[Eye on 10.5 lakh jobs: Tamil Nadu investors meet nets Rs 3 lakh crore from 304 MoUs](#)

[AES sees \\$50 billion opportunity in Indian energy storage](#)

[India's Feb manufacturing activity hits 14-month high as sales, output, employment accelerate](#)

[Adani Ports to pump INR 53,000 cr to expand capacity of Kattupalli port](#)

[Foxconn to set up Advanced Industrial AI R&D centre in Hyderabad](#)

[India skills sector offers opportunities for equity investors with training aspirations](#)

[7-Eleven wants to shake up India's massive food retail market](#)

[Kerala Tourism targets 100% tourism inflow with the inauguration of Kannur International airport](#)

[Tourism generated USD 234 bn revenue in 2018 in India](#)

[India's exports to surpass USD 314 bn peak this year](#)

[India wants to make medical tourism a \\$9 billion industry by 2020](#)

[India among most trusted nations globally](#)

[Logistics market in India seen growing 10.5% a year, to reach \\$215 bn by 2020: Study](#)

[India to be 2nd-largest 5G market in 10 years](#)

[Strategy for \\$10 trillion economy in the works, says Suresh Prabhu](#)

[India ranks in 'Bloomberg Innovation Index' of 60 economies for first time ever](#)

[India replaces Japan as second top steel producer](#)

[India Ready For Business As Never Before : PM At Vibrant Gujarat Summit](#)

[Vibrant Gujarat summit: MoUs for Rs 50,000-cr renewable power projects likely](#)

[India on top: The country on track to become one of the largest economies in the world](#)

[IBM to train over 1 million female students in India in 3 years](#)

[Alstom wins Rs 580 cr worth contract for Bangalore Metro](#)

[Air India is going to add non-stop flights to the US and Australia](#)

[MSME sector added up to 14.9 million jobs per annum in last four years](#)

[MCA announces new verification e-form for newly-incorporated companies](#)

**AUSTRALIA NEWS**

[US, UK, Australia top education destinations for parents in India: Report](#)

[Tata AutoComp ties up with Australia's Tritium to set up EV](#)

[Cabinet approves MoU between India, Australia on mines safety management](#)

[Victorian Government places largest-ever water order from desalination plant in dry conditions](#)

[Australia's NAB to expand threshold for small business protections](#)

[Australian business is finally investing](#)

[It is going to be a very strong 2019 and 2020 for iron ore and crude: Peter McGuire, XM Australia](#)

[Australian walnuts set to enter Indian market](#)

[Australia to build 'independently thinking' drones](#)

[Eyes on the sea: companies compete for Australian maritime surveillance contract](#)

[Australia, Indonesia, Swiss tourism boards open new vistas for travellers](#)

**Dear Readers,**

Firstly, thank you for such encouraging and positive feedback on our revised e-newsletter and to those who have contributed to this edition. You will see, that as promised, we continue to try and improve the overall quality of every forthcoming issue.

We are in the process of reinventing the Chamber's digital activity to engage more with members and expand our reach. Do watch the interaction (YouTube video) that we had with one of our members – Deakin University and please follow us on LinkedIn.

Our new website will be launched soon and one of the key features is a Blog page. It would be along



the lines of a guest host blog, with content from writers on a range of business topics. I have received two articles already, from Stephen Manallack and Austrade (many thanks!). We intend to have blog posts updated regularly. If you're interested in sharing pieces of content here, let me know.

The newsletter is member driven, so do continue to send in articles, business news etc. as the Chamber is committed to sharing your stories and providing you with the latest information to help your business.

As always, your feedback and comments are most welcome.

Warm regards,

*Petula*